

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 IO-13 NSC-05 NSCE-00
SP-02 /058 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:SFPATRICK/MPH
APPROVED BY AF:WESCHAUFEELE
AF/C:TBUCHANAN (SUBSTANCE)
AF/S:DKEOGH (SUBSTANCE)
AF/E:JWHITING (SUBSTANCE)
S:WHTWADDELL

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O R 041441Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

S E C R E T STATE 129423

USOECF FOR OECD PARIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, NI, US

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH EXTAFF COMMISSIONER
GARBA AT CIEC IN PARIS MAY 31

REF: BRASILIA 4291

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: SECRETARY MET WITH EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
COMMISSIONER GARBA AT KLEBER CONFERENCE CENTER, PARIS,
MAY 31. MEETING ARRANGED AT SECRETARY'S REQUEST. CON-
VERSATION FOCUSED ON NIGERIAN MEDIATION OF ZAIRE-ANGOLA
PROBLEM. GARBA QUESTIONED ORIGIN OF CONGOLESE MEDIATION
INITIATIVE AND STRONGLY SUGGESTED SOVIET ROLE IN THAT
DEVELOPMENT. SECRETARY DISCUSSED LATEST US EFFORTS IN
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SOUTHERN AFRICA AND INFORMED GARBA OF US VIEWS AND ACTI-
VITIES RELATING TO HORN OF AFRICA. END SUMMARY.

2. SECRETARY MET WITH NIGERIAN EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION-
ER GARBA FOR BILATERAL TALKS DURING CIEC MINISTERIAL AT
PARIS MAY 31. MEETING ARRANGED AT SECRETARY'S REQUEST.
GARBA ACCOMPANIED BY NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE J. N.

UKEGBU; MEA DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION, AMBASSADOR P. AFOLABI; PROFESSOR H. M. A. ONITIRI, DIRECTOR OF NIGERIAN INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH, AND GARBA'S AIDE DEDE.

3. GARBA FOCUSED IMMEDIATELY ON THE ROLE HE WAS PLAYING IN THE NIGERIAN MEDIATION OF THE ZAIRE-ANGOLA PROBLEM. HE SAID THE SECURITY OF BORDERS (REQUIREMENT OF MOBUTU) WAS MAJOR STUMBLING BLOCK IN THE MEDIATION DISCUSSIONS WITH NETO. GARBA SAID THAT NETO REFUSED TO DISCUSS THE BORDER ISSUE. GARBA ASKED THE SECRETARY IF HE KNEW WHO HAD INVESTIGATED THE CONGOLESE MEDIATION OFFER. THE SECRETARY REPLIED THAT HE DID NOT UNDERSTAND HOW IT CAME ABOUT. GARBA SAID THAT NETO'S PRESENT FRAME OF MIND WAS UNCLEAR. GARBA SPECULATED AS TO WHETHER THE OAU SHOULD BEGIN TO PLAY A MEDIATION ROLE. HE FIRST SAID THAT IF THE OAU WERE BROUGHT IN IT WOULD "WIDEN THE SCOPE OF CONSULTATIONS." GARBA THEN CONCLUDED THAT IT WOULD BE FUTILE TO MEDIATE IN THE OAU CONTEXT BECAUSE A SPLIT AMONG THE COUNTRIES WAS INEVITABLE. THE SECRETARY SAID THAT HE PREFERRED A CONTINUATION OF THE NIGERIAN EFFORT. THE SECRETARY SAID THAT THE US WOULD CONTINUE OUR PRESENT EFFORTS TO ASSIST ZAIRE MILITARILY AND ECONOMICALLY.

4. THE SECRETARY INFORMED GARBA ABOUT OUR ACTIVITIES TO RESOLVE THE RHODESIAN AND NAMIBIAN PROBLEMS AND PROVIDED THE FOREIGN MINISTER WITH A BRIEF SUMMARY OF US EFFORTS. INCLUDED IN THIS BRIEF OVERVIEW WAS A SUMMARY OF THE MONDALE/VORSTER DISCUSSION IN VIENNA. THE SECRETARY
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STATED THAT HE FELT THAT THESE TALKS HAD BEEN WORTHWHILE BECAUSE THE SOUTH AFRICANS WILL NOW UNDERSTAND OUR VIEWS ON APARTHEID. GARBA ASKED WHETHER WE COULD PUT TURNHALLE "ON THE SHELF?" THE SECRETARY RESPONDED THAT HE WAS NOT CONVINCED THAT THIS WOULD BE POSSIBLE AS FAR AS VORSTER IS CONCERNED, BECAUSE HE FELT THAT VORSTER MIGHT COME UP WITH A TURNHALLE TYPE SOLUTION IN ANOTHER FORM. GARBA SAID THAT THE NIGERIANS SUPPORT THE US/UK INITIATIVE ON ZIMBABWE. GARBA EXPRESSED CONCERN AT RECENT RHODESIAN INCURSIONS INTO MOZAMBIQUE AND SAID THAT THESE WOULD CREATE DIFFICULTIES FOR PEACE EFFORTS IN THE REGION.

5. GARBA RAISED THE ISSUE OF THE ROLE OF THE ZIMBABWE NATIONALIST LEADERS AND THEIR ATTITUDES AS THEY RELATE TO THE RESOLUTION OF THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM. HE SAID THAT THE NATIONALIST LEADERS "MAY BE TAKEN TO TASK VERY SERIOUSLY. THEY MUST SEE THE REALITIES OF THE SITUATION." HE SAID THAT IT MAY WELL BE THAT WHEN NEGOTIATIONS OCCUR THE US/UK WILL FIND A MORE COHESIVE NATIONALIST BODY. AC-

CORDING TO GARBA, THE NIGERIANS HAVE TOLD NKOMO THEY WILL WITHDRAW SUPPORT FROM HIM IF "EVERYONE KEEPS DOING THEIR OWN THING." THE FOREIGN MINISTER WAS VERY INSISTENT ON THIS POINT. HE THEN ASKED THE SECRETARY TO PUT SMITH IN THE PROPER FRAMEWORK TO NEGOTIATE. THE SECRETARY RESPONDED THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO LEAN ON VORSTER AND SMITH IN ORDER TO HAVE SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATIONS.

6. GARBA TOLD THE SECRETARY THAT HE WOULD NOT TRUST VORSTER AS FAR AS NAMIBIA WAS CONCERNED, AND HE WARNED US NOT TO HAVE ANY OTHER CONTACT WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN PRIME MINISTER ABOVE THE AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL, STATING THAT "MONDALE WAS ENOUGH." GARBA THEN ASKED THE SECRETARY FOR CLARIFICATION ON PRESS REPORTS THAT THERE HAD BEEN "AGREEMENTS BETWEEN MONDALE AND VORSTER." THE SECRETARY RESPONDED THAT THERE WERE NO SUCH AGREEMENTS AND REPEATED HIS EARLIER VIEWS OF THE EXCHANGES WHICH HAD TAKEN PLACE IN VIENNA.

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7. GARBA ASKED THE SECRETARY ABOUT THE STATE OF US CONTACT WITH THE ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT. THE SECRETARY RESPONDED THAT THERE HAD BEEN SOME CONTACT IN NEW YORK. HE TOLD GARBA THAT IF THERE IS POSITIVE ANGOLAN ACTION ON ZAIRE, THE US WOULD BE WILLING TO TALK WITH THE ANGOLANS. HE AGAIN STATED HOW DISAPPOINTED HE WAS THAT THE ANGOLANS HAD FAILED TO RESPOND TO THE NIGERIAN MEDIATION EFFORT.

8. GARBA ASKED THE SECRETARY WHETHER HE HAD EVER RAISED THE ANGOLAN ISSUE WITH THE SOVIETS. THE SECRETARY SAID THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED THE ISSUE WITH GROMYKO AND HE STATED THE SOVIETS HAVE NOT SUPPLIED EQUIPMENT DIRECTLY TO THE KATANGAN GENDARMES. GROMYKO DID SAY, HOWEVER, THAT IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT THEY WERE USING SOVIET EQUIPMENT WHICH HAD BEEN PROVIDED IN THE PAST. THE SECRETARY TOLD GARBA THAT GROMYKO HAD OPENLY EXPRESSED DISPLEASURE THAT NETO HAD NOT KEPT THEM INFORMED OF THEIR ACTIVITIES IN SHABA.

9. GARBA THEN DESCRIBED HIS CONTACT WITH THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN LAGOS, SAYING THAT HE HAD WRITTEN THEM CONCERNING DETAILS OF HIS MEDIATION EFFORT. HE SAID THAT HE HAD RECEIVED NO REPLY. GARBA EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE CONGOLESE MEDIATION INITIATIVE WAS BEING SPONSORED BY THE SOVIETS. THE SECRETARY RESPONDED THAT HE WILL TRY TO DETERMINE THE ORIGIN OF THE CONGOLESE EFFORT, ITS RELATION TO SOVIET ACTIVITIES, AND REPORT THE RESULTS OF HIS RESEARCH TO GARBA. GARBA SAID THAT HE FELT THAT THE SOVIETS WERE KEY IN ANGOLA.

10. THE SECRETARY ALSO OUTLINED OUR VIEWS AND ACTIVITIES

AS THEY RELATED TO THE HORN OF AFRICA, BRIEFLY SUMMARIZING DEVELOPMENTS IN US RELATIONS WITH SOMALIA AND DJIBOUTI. GARBA RESPONDED BY SAYING THAT THE GOAL OF AMERICAN ASSISTANCE SHOULD BE TO HELP A COUNTRY MAINTAIN ITS TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND NOT TO COUNTERBALANCE THE SOVIETS.

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HE EXPRESSED HIS SURPRISE THAT THE SOMALIS WANTED AMERICAN HELP.

11. LETTER FROM SECRETARY TO GARBA IS BEING POUCHED. LETTER THANKS GARBA FOR CONSTRUCTIVE DISCUSSIONS THEY HELD IN PARIS AND ADDRESSES CONCERNS RAISED PARA 9.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Document Number: 1977STATE129423
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Drafter: SFPATRICK/MPH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BRASILIA 4291
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2275844
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH EXTAFF COMMISSIONER GARBA AT CIEC IN PARIS MAY 31
TAGS: PGOV, NI, US, AO, CG, (VANCE, CYRUS R)
To: LAGOS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/418e4685-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009